

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0155

S E C R E T MOSCOW 2542

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, US,UR

SUBJ: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: STATEMENT ON PEACEFUL APPLICATIONS

TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 65

REF: STATE 35621

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT BY STOESSEL IN RESTRICTED
MEETING FEB 19.

BEGIN TEXT.

WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL AS WE PROCEED TO ENSURE
THAT BOTH SIDES HAVE THE SAME UNDERSTANDING OF ALL THE
IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF OUR WORK.

IN THAT CONTEXT LET ME DISCUSS WITH YOU A PROVISION
IN THE TREATY. YOU WILL RECALL THAT BOTH SIDES HAVE
FREQUENTLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT PNES SHOULD NOT BE USED TO
OBTAIN WEAPON-RELATED BENEFITS. IT HAS ALSO BEEN UNDER-
STOOD IN SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS THAT, IN IMPLEMENTING THIS
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, DEVELOPMENT TESTS OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE
DEVICES WILL BE CONFINED TO WEAPON TESTS SITES.

THE CURRENT JOINT DRAFT TREATY CONTAINS A
STATEMENT OF INTENT ALONG THESE LINES IN THE PREAMBLE.

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THERE IS A TREATY PROVISION (ATTICLE III PARAGRAPH

2(C) REQUIRING THAT ANY PNE MUST CARRY OUT A STATED PEACEFUL APPLICATION. THERE IS ALSO A PROVISION IN THE PROTOCOL FOR DESIGNATED PERSONNEL, WHEN PRESENT, TO CONFIRM THAT LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROJECT, ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE STATED PEACEFUL PURPOSE.

THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO ENSURE THAT THE SCOPE OF THESE PROVISIONS, PARTICULARLY TREATY ARTICLE III PARAGRAPH 2(C), IS CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD IN ORDER TO AVOID THE RISK OF POSSIBLE FUTURE MISUNDERSTANDINGS AS TO WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE ALLOWED AND WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE PROHIBITED DURING THE CONDUCT OF UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

IT IS THE US VIEW THAT THE PARTIES WILL, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, PRECLUDE THE ACQUISITION OF WEAPON-RELATED BENEFITS THROUGH UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

IN THE US VIEW, DEVELOPMENT TESTS OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICES, AND ACQUISITION OF ANY OTHER WEAPON-RELATED BENEFITS, SHOULD NOT BE ATTEMPTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CONDUCT OF UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. IN ADDITION, THE US UNDERSTANDS THAT "A PEACEFUL APPLICATION" MEANS AN APPLICATION OF UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES WHICH CARRIES OUT A SPECIFIED AND IDENTIFIABLE PEACEFUL PROJECT.

MR. MINISTER, I SEEK YOUR AFFIRMATION THAT THE SOVIET SIDE HAS THE SAME UNDERSTANDING AS THE UNITED STATES ON THIS IMPORTANT QUESTION. IF THIS IS THE CASE, THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE INTERESTED IN RECORDING AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION ON THIS POINT IN SOME WAY.

END TEXT.
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